FUN AND FANTASY











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LEGEND

- Federal Territory
- State capital
- Airport
- State boundary
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Theme parks and waterparks in Malaysia promise hours of fun for everyone in the family. From the mountain top to the bottom of a former mining pool several floors below ground level, each theme park offers its own special attractions that make a theme park visit a fantastic and memorable experience. Since the theme parks are located in different parts of Malaysia, a visit to the theme park is an excellent opportunity to see the natural beauty of the country and the many tourist attractions nearby.



THEME PARKS –

Let the fun begin



Up at Genting Highlands, there are both outdoor and indoor theme parks and shopping at the Genting Theme Park & First World, plus the added attraction of the cold mountain air. Here, you can also enjoy serene mountain scenery and on a clear day, see Kuala Lumpur (KL) and the Petronas Twin Towers in the distance. Sunway Lagoon in Petaling Jaya is famous for its main attractions of thrilling waterpark rides, adventure rides and family rides. At Seri Kembangan near Putrajaya is The Mines Wonderland, the only night park in Malaysia where, in the Animal Kingdom, you can see rare white tigers, besides enjoying the Musical Fountain, live entertainment and numerous family rides.

Visit Bukit Merah Laketown Resort near Taiping and see Orang Utans living free and in the wild in the only Orang Utan island sanctuary in Peninsular Malaysia, before having fun at the waterpark. A' Famosa near historic Melaka City boasts the only Animal Safari in the country, in addition to a waterpark to cool off after the safari, plus amazing animal shows. Other places to cool off while having fun in the water are Desa Water Park, Wet World Shah Alam, Wet World Batu Pahat, and Wet World Pedas Hot Springs Waterpark, where the water is circulated from a hot spring source and there is a pool filled with hot spring water for those who want a dip.



An exciting experience also awaits at Malaysia's Culture Parks. At the Sarawak Cultural Village near Kuching, you can see the traditional buildings and activities of the various ethnic communities of Sarawak, namely, Iban, Bidayuh, Orang Ulu, Melanau, Penan, Malay and Chinese. After touring the village, you can enjoy a captivating cultural performance. Near Kota Kinabalu is the Monsopiad Cultural Village, dedicated to preserving the culture of the Kadazans, the largest ethnic community in Sabah. It is named after the legendary Kadazan warrior, Monsopiad, and was set up by his descendants.

Have Fun and Enjoy!




COSMO'S WORLD THEME PARK

A world of its own

Come and spend an entire weekend at Kuala Lumpur Berjaya Times Square. There is something here for everyone in Asia's largest shopping mall. Located right in the heart of the city centre, this integrated retail, entertainment and leisure complex also boasts the country's biggest indoor theme park. Easily accessible via the intra-city public transit system, KL Monorail, Times Square is where you can come over in the morning, do some shopping, watch a movie, ride the roller coaster and eat whatever you want.





Welcome to Cosmo's World Theme Park, located on the 5th (Adult & Teenagers), 7th (Children & Family) and 8th (Kidztown) floors of the mall. Built by the fictitious mad scientist Professor Cosmo and his clumsy robot assistant Ooort, this theme park is guaranteed to transport you to another galaxy far, far away.

There are six adult thrill rides specially designed for the park. They are the heart-stopping roller coaster, the 30-metre high Spinning Orbit, Space Attack, Ooort's Express, Dizzy Izzy and the DNA Mixer.

The 800-metre long roller coaster nicknamed the Supersonic Odyssey is sure to give you the ride of your life! What makes it even more interesting is the viewing deck on the bridge connecting the 8th floor, where you board the ride, to the 9th floor overlooking the theme park. The roller coaster then loops around the bridge thus giving parents and friends a chance to see or photograph their kids riding the world's longest indoor roller coaster which plunges from the 13th floor to the 5th level before coming to a halt on the 7th floor. What a thrill!

Another ride bound to leave you in a daze is the DNA Mixer. This crazy invention by our mad scientist is sure to loop the minds of 21 passengers at one go. Try getting off and you'll be sure to lose all sense of direction!



A milder yet equally exciting place for the kids to be is the Fantasy Garden. Created by Professor Cosmo and decorated with bright beautiful colours and small benches for the kids to rest when they are worn out from all that running around, there are 10 rides which children of all ages can enjoy. The Buddy-Go-Round carousel will definitely excite the youngsters whereas the rocking boat ride, Molly Cool's Swing is sure to sway their minds.

Families can also enjoy a smooth drive with their kids through a natural wonderland at the garden with the Botanic Drive ride. To top things off, Bumper Cars are also found in the garden to accommodate both children (Honey Bump) and adults (Robo Crash). Besides the rides, the children will be entertained by Professor Cosmo himself and together with his friends the garden will be filled with joy and laughter!

The amusement does not stop there as the Kidz Castle is situated nearby for entertainment on stage and the children's playground Kidz @ PlayGround is another place of restless fun!

Berjaya Times Square KL is situated at the junction of Jalan Imbi and Jalan Pudu. It is right in the city's Golden Triangle and part of the Bukit Bintang shopping belt. It has 12 levels of leisure, entertainment and shopping, 65 food and beverage outlets, 56-lane bowling centre and a 9-screen Cineplex. It also houses corporate offices, a hotel and serviced apartments in its two 45-storey tower block.





GETTING THERE:

The main access is from Jalan Imbi. There are 4500 car park bays. Hop on the KL Monorail and alight at the Imbi station, which leads directly into the mall. Alternatively if you are on the STAR LRT alight at the Hang Tuah station and take a five-minute walk to the mall.

Opening hours:
Weekdays : Noon-10pm. Weekends / Public Holidays : 11am - 10pm

Admission: Malaysians - RM32 (adult 13 years & above) & RM22 (child age 3 - 12 years) & RM15 (Senior Citizen age 55 years above)
Foreigners - RM38 (adult 13 years & above) & RM28 (child age 3 - 12 years) & RM15 (Senior Citizen age 55 years above)

Supporting facilities: Fast food outlets, restaurants, shopping, car park

Hotel accommodation: Available

Information: Tel : 603-2117 3118 Fax : 603-2143 2380

E-mail: anthonypakchunsang@timessquarekl.com

Website: www.timessquarekl.com


Kidz
PLAYGROUND


SUNWAY





SUNWAY LAGOON Spectacular water thrills & wild wild west adventures

Exciting rides, thrills, adventure, entertainment, and non-stop fun await you at the sprawling 80-acre Sunway Lagoon. There's even a beach with real waves! With three different theme lands, each boasting fantastic rides and attractions, there's no end to laughter and enjoyment. The daily street performances add to the merriment of this lively and colourful theme park. You'll definitely want to spend the whole day here.



BOOM, BOOM, BOOM! Get ready to Scream and Splash around in the raging Waters of Africa, the newest out-of-this-world thrilling and exciting water rides in Malaysia's only African-themed waterparks! Race down the Congo Challenge – HEAD FIRST – at speeds of up to 40 kilometres. Then if you dare, take on the Cameroon Climb, the first in the world double tube water ride that drops steeply from 15 metres, and shoots up again to a height of eight metres. For families, the gigantic African Pythons ride promises unforgettable fun as you spin around in loops on a water slide before escaping out of the gigantic tubes! WOW!



Next, you can surf the waves at raging heights of up to eight feet in the world's largest man-made Jeffrey's Bay Surf Wave Pool. There's even a spectacular erupting Volcano in the background. Then, explore Elephant Walk, where huge elephant sculptures guard a magnificent lake, and perhaps meet a fire-eater and African tribal dancers doing a rain dance at the happening Zulu Walk. From the raging Waters of Africa, hoist sail for the amazing Wild Wild West – the land of cowboys and Red Indians.

HOWDY, COWBOYS AND COWGIRLS! Discover an American frontier town with wooden facades and totem poles, like you see in the movies. And as you stroll along the streets of the Wild Wild West, don't be surprised to see Apache Indians and saloon dancing girls in fluffy skirts.

There are also spectacular rides to enjoy. Be prepared to get wet on the exhilarating Niagara Falls Flume Ride. Swirl around in the raging waters of the Grand Canyon River Rapids. For the fearless, nothing beats the 360-degree swings of the Tomahawk, where the world goes upside down. Buffalo Bill Coaster, Apache Pots and Butch Cassidy's Trail provide great fun for the whole family.

And that's not all. At the World of Adventure, more excitement and thrills are in store. Walk the World's Longest Pedestrian Suspension Bridge and be rewarded with a breathtaking view of the whole Lagoon from a dizzying height. Brave the tunnels, booby traps and tarantulas in The Lost City of Gold ride and conquer the out-of-control swinging Galleon. Daredevils will love the heart-stopping Flying Carpet. Before you leave, come and say hello to Sunway Lagoon's beautiful Siberian and Bengal tigers. By now you must be really hungry. But don't worry, as there are plenty of cafes, restaurants and snack outlets offering a tempting array of local and fast food delights and yummy ice cream.







GETTING THERE:

About 45 minutes drive from Kuala Lumpur on the Federal Highway. Sunway Lagoon is also accessible via the Damansara-Puchong Expressway, New Pantai Express Way and KESAS Highway. Visitors can also take the KTM Komuter train to Subang Jaya Station or the Putra-LRT to Kelana Jaya station and continue by taxi to the Sunway Pyramid stop. Public bus services Cityliner bus No. 51 and Metrobus No. 10 & 11 depart from Klang Bus Station in Kuala Lumpur and stop at Sunway Pyramid.

Opening hours: Weekdays 11am - 6pm. Closed on Tuesdays.
Weekends, public holidays & Malaysian school holidays: 10am - 6pm
Open everyday throughout the Malaysian school holidays

Admission: RM100 (adult) & RM80 (child) - 5 parks packages
RM80 (adult) & RM65 (child) - 3 parks packages
25% Discount on package prices for MyKad holders

Supporting facilities: Fast food outlets, restaurants, shopping, car park

Hotel accommodation: Available

Information: Tel: 603-5635 8000 Fax: 603-5635 5050

Website: www.sunway.com.my/lagoon




SUNWAY
LAGOON


COLORADO
SPLASH





LOST WORLD OF TAMBUN

Fun and adventure amidst nature



So many worlds packed into one, the Lost World of Tambun is an action-packed, exciting adventure with the most thrilling rides and attractions. Located in the historic town of Ipoh, the theme park is set in natural landscapes, surrounded by exquisitely breathtaking limestone features. Whether it's a weekend of mayhem oozing with family fun or a burst of eco-adventure that you're looking for, the Lost World of Tambun has it all. Five main elements make up this world of adventure – the Water Park, the Amusement Park, the Tiger Valley, the Lost World Petting Zoo and the Lost World Hot Springs & Spa.

The Water Park offers exhilarating water rides for everyone! At the River & Beach garden, you can find a perfectly landscaped beach, surrounded by 20 feet twin waterfalls with two rivers flowing into the pool. While you're at the Waterfall Beach Garden, make sure you hit the waves at Malaysia's biggest wave pool, the Jungle Wave Pool, where waves can swell up to 3 feet high. Refresh with a musical shower at the Musical Body Wash before heading off to the Sandy Bay for an intense game of volleyball with friends and family or just for a relaxing time soaking in the sun.

Get ready for a wet world of fun in the kids-only zone, Kid's Explorabay, specially designed for little ones. Fully supervised, the Explorabay boasts special smaller slides and a large, wet, interactive play area with giant tipping buckets, water cannons, spraying elephants, water curtains and fountains. Top this off with a pirate ship ride and your little pirates will come back looking for more!

Designed for thrill-seeking adults and teenagers, the Cliff Racer injects a boost of adrenaline when your mine cart flies - Indiana Jones style - straight down the speed-coaster at maximum speed! Just when you think you will stop and fly through the jungle canopy, the day is saved and your tube rocks gently down to earth with the flowing water and strategically rises at the end of the slide. While you're at the wet park, don't miss going on the longest inflatable tube ride in Malaysia! With four different slides to try, the Tube Raiders is a family-favorite as you wind your way down from the top of the giant slides.

If you're looking for a more relaxing water ride, try soaring on the Adventure River. Sit back and relax as you gently float around in the 600- metre-long river, passing the naturally-beautiful caves and out-of-the-world water features. Anticipate a little surprise along the way though, as you will be greeted with waves along the way, so make sure you hold on to that tube!

After having a whale of a time at the Water Park, dry off and try the dry rides next at the Amusement Park. Take a 'flight' and enjoy the scenery while you dry off on the Dragon Flights ride, as you get swung in the air in this thrilling swing-chair ride, before you sail over to the Stormrider, a pirate boat which swings you 180 degrees for some spine-tingling excitement.





After playing explorer at the Water Park, get your little ones to cool down on the Perak Parade carousel, before going on the Giddy Galleon for a perfect family ride away from the water. Make sure you also try the Adventure Express, where you can sit back and let this ancient locomotive take you and your family on a journey past majestic ruins, surging waters and wild tiger – giving you a quick tour of the Lost World of Tambun's other attractions.

Watch the tigers roar, play and feed while learning more about them at the Tiger Valley! Meet Sultan, Raima, Putra, Jazz and Azian – Lost World of Tambun's very own Siberian tigers. Catch them and their handlers at play and observe their agility and strength as they jump over rocks and logs to get to their meals during the tiger feeding shows. Learn a little bit about how the tigers are cared for through the valley's educational program where you will be able to get up close and personal with one of these exquisite beasts.

If that's not enough, take a walk on the wild side at our Petting Zoo, where you'll be able to get up close and personal with some of the zoo's favourites – Ruby the Raccoon, Nia the Python and Wira the Green Macaw. The Petting Zoo features a large variety of exotic animals in an environment created as close to nature as possible. The Petting area is set within a large area of 80,000 square feet framed by the lush rainforest backdrop of the Monkey Valley, and houses a combination of domestic animals and wild animals that are docile enough to be handled by children. Take some time to walk through the different areas, where you will be able to feed, touch and play with the animals in their natural habitats.



Kids can look forward to having an enjoyable time petting and playing with an assortment of tame animals such as rabbits, guinea pigs, tortoises, African Dwarf goats, deers and some adorable primates such as the white-eared marmosets, black-eared marmosets and macaques. The large aviary houses over 500 birds from 18 species with all-time favourites such as cockatoos, mandarin ducks and peacocks. The Serpentarium features a host of slithering reptiles such as the reticulated pythons, mangrove snakes and Giant Monitor Lizards.

To keep the memory alive for a long time after the visit, kids and adults can pose for pictures with the ferret, wallaby, Sugar Glider, Blue-Gold Macaw and the Giant Iguana at the Rock Canopy.



GETTING THERE:

Take the North-South Expressway and head for Ipoh, Perak. Take the Exit Lost World of Tambun and follow signboards for 5 minutes to Lost World of Tambun. The Lost World of Tambun is located on the right just after passing Giant Hypermarket.

Opening hours: Monday - Friday: 11 am - 6 pm; Saturday, Sunday, Public Holidays & School Holidays: 10 am - 6 pm.
Closed every Tuesday (except public holiday / school holiday)

Admission: RM38 (adult), RM32 (children below 12 years old), FREE (children below 90cm in height). Group packages are available with minimum number of 30 persons - advance booking is required.

Supporting facilities: Shade Area (10 units), shower & changing rooms, prayer rooms, toilets for the disabled, first-aid room, restaurants, camping sites, cave explorations, river cruise, miniature horse ride, hot springs and spa.

Accommodation: Available

Information: Tel: 605-542 8888 Fax: 605-542 8899

E-mail: lostworldoftambun@sunway.com.my

Website: www.sunway.com.my/lostworldoftambun

BUKIT GAMBANG RESORT CITY

Fun-filled water & land adventures

Bukit Gambang Resort City (BGRC) is an integrated resort city built on the concept of 'natural-preservation, historic theme and local culture', offering multiple attractions to its visitors. It is just 2 ½ hours' drive or 218km from Kuala Lumpur, with easy access via the East Coast Expressway and only 35km from Kuantan.



With 578 units of spacious luxury suites, the largest water park and jungle outdoor activities, Bukit Gambang Resort City is an appropriate leisure destination for the family. The Caribbean Bay Suites offers 420 stylish family suites and 140 studio suites, all equipped with a private balcony and furnished with natural-looking solid timber-strip floor. The Active Academy is the place to go to for the ultimate outdoor adventure, perfect for teambuilding sessions, with state-of-the-art facilities and a panel of professionals ready to assist. Bukit Gambang Resort City is also an ideal M.I.C.E. venue with a host of first-class facilities and knowledge to meet every business and event requirement. Exciting future developments include Forest Park, Adventure Park, East Coast Bazaar, Heritage Square and Global Heritage Resort Villa.



Bukit Gambang Resort Water Park is the first water park in Malaysia's East Cost - and probably the largest in Malaysia - offering non-stop fun and excitement in an area spanning across





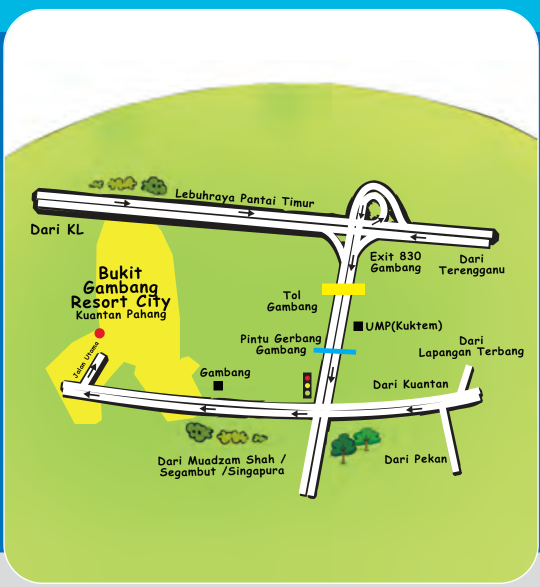


60 acres. Among the unique and fascinating attractions available include a manmade 20-acre lake with breathtaking views, suitable for a wide variety of fun water sports, a 25,000 sq ft wave pool with 8 modes of waves, offering a whale of a time, the longest family raft ride, the amazing 6-lane Racer Slide with a timing scoreboard and a dedicated island for children.

For the more adventurous, the curls and twirls of the Crystal, Galaxy and Canopy slides will undoubtedly provide endless fun for all. Kids will love Penvguin Island. Surrounded by the Glacier River, which features the Journey of Ice, a cool tunnel tube ride, Penguin Island houses the first-of-its-kind Aqua Play and several children slides – all built to international safety standards. The young-at-heart will love the adrenaline rush from all our water slides at Tree Top Hill. If you're into relaxation, just float around in our glacier river and take in the view. What's best about the attractions in Bukit Gambang Water Park is that that every adult ride here comes with its own kid-sized version.



Carrying a pocketful of money while you're trying to have fun is a real party pooper. Wouldn't it be great if everything is charged electronically to your account instead? You'll be able to do just that at Bukit Gambang Water Park. Utilising what is known as the first-of-its-kind e-value system in Malaysia, all transactions are automatically deducted from a prepaid wristband. Just walk up to the nearest F & B outlet, pick out your favourite item and pay for it with your pre-loaded wristband. Now that's real convenience for you.



GETTING THERE:

From KL, take the East Coast Expressway, exit into Gambang, then pass the Gambang toll and the Gambang gateway. Then turn right at the traffic lights into Gambang town.

Opening hours: Weekdays: 11 am - 6 pm; Weekends: 10 am - 6 pm (Public Holiday / School Holiday)

Closed every Tuesday (except public holiday / school holiday)

Admission: Adult RM 21.90 Child RM 14.90

Supporting facilities: Restaurants, MICE facilities, convention centre, gymnasium, retail shops, teambuilding facilities, forest adventure.

Accommodation: Available

Information: Tel : 609-548 8000 Fax : 609-548 6288

E-mail: bg_waterpark@bgrc.com.my

Website: www.bgrc.com.my



GENTING HIGHLANDS

Thrills & non-stop entertainment

The fun never seems to stop at Genting – City of Entertainment, perched on the top of Genting Highlands, and reached by road or cable car. There is a choice of outdoor or indoor theme parks, indoor splash pool with warm water, or outdoor waterpark. In the evening, there is spectacular entertainment at the Genting International Showroom or Pavilion, be it a thrilling magic show or an ice-skating extravaganza, shopping at newly opened First World Plaza, games, and feasting on a wide range of delicious food.



The sparkling, new First World Plaza indoor theme park cum shopping complex features a series of fun rides and six theme areas from around the world – France (Champs Elysee), England (London), Italy (Venice), America (Times Square and Universal Walk), Switzerland (Swiss Alps) and Malaysia (Genting Walk).

In Genting's Venice, you can cruise on a canal in the Venice Gondola Ride, before hopping over to London to ride on the Ferris Wheel beside the mini Big Ben. Round the corner are Universal Walk, Times Square, and replicas of the Statue of Liberty and the Oscar. France is represented by a mini Eiffel Tower and a mini Arc de Triomphe. The suspended overhead rides such as the Euro Express, Reindeer Cruiser, Rio Float and the Monorail provide an excellent bird's eye view of the bustling First World indoor theme park that extends over four levels.



With a Swiss Alps theme, the Snow World features a log cabin, an igloo, toboggan slides and snow play area. It's cold in here, so do remember to wear warm clothing, but it'll be fun riding on the toboggan! Children will surely love the Rainforest Splash Pool even though it's cold outside, as the pool is filled with warm water.

For the adventurous, are you ready to fly? The First World Plaza also boasts the Genting Sky Venture, the only free fall skydiving simulator in Asia, and to challenge you further is the Genting X-pedition Wall, an international-standard rock-climbing wall stretching 10–15 metres in height, and with a six-metre overhang.





GETTING THERE:
About 45 minutes drive from Kuala Lumpur via the Karak Highway. Kuala Lumpur-Genting taxis are available from the Puduraya Bus Station in Kuala Lumpur. The Kuala Lumpur-Genting direct coach service is available from KL Sentral, Jalan Duta Coach Station, Puduraya and Gombak LRT Station.

Opening hours: Outdoor Park - Weekdays 10am - 6pm & Weekends 8am - 8pm / Indoor Park and First World Plaza rides - Daily 8am - 12midnight.

Admission: Outdoor Park for unlimited rides RM51 (adult) & RM36 (children & senior citizens) for weekdays.
Outdoor Park for unlimited rides RM59 (adult) & RM41 (children & senior citizens) for weekend & public holidays.

Supporting facilities: Fast food outlets, restaurants, shopping, car park

Hotel accommodation: Available

Information : 603-2718 1118

Website: www.genting.com.my

Then get ready to scream on the Haunted Adventure funicular train that goes up a 45-degree slope to the Horror House or be amazed by the unique and bizarre exhibits at the Ripley's Believe It or Not! Museum.

You and your friends can next have a friendly competition at the 28-lane Genting Bowl, or at the Q-bowl, where the game is similar to pool. More entertainment awaits at the Funtasy World video arcade and the Cineplex. With 48 retail and 52 food / drinks outlets at the First World Plaza, there will never be a dull moment.

Over 30 rides can be enjoyed in the Outdoor Theme Park. Thrill-seekers will want to try all four roller coaster rides – the double loop Corkscrew, Rolling Thunder Mine Train, Cyclone and Flying Dragon. The daring ones will also want to ride the Spinner Flying Carousel, the Super Toboggan, and the intense Turbo Drop that drops riders 185 feet down in the air and then instantly shoots them upwards. On the Sungai Rejang Flume Ride and at the Genting Splash, the only waterpark experience available at 6,000 feet (2,000 metres) above sea level, be prepared to get wet. It's part of the fun!

There are numerous children's rides and family rides including the Monorail and Theme Park Skyway cable cars. Younger children will enjoy rides such as the Flying Baby Jumbo, Teacup, Pirate Train, Rodeo Rider and Astro Fighter. In the Indoor Theme Park are three more thrill rides - Space Odyssey, Disco Bumper and the Motion Master Simulator that manoeuvres around sharp turns and dives into deep gorges, and a rich variety of skill games and video games that can be enjoyed until late at night.





THE CARNIVALL

Water & land of excitement

Enjoy the best of both worlds at The Carnivall, the northern region's latest adventure playground. Located within the Cinta Sayang Golf & Country Resort in Sungai Petani, Kedah, this seven-hectare water and land theme park is packed with thrilling rides and fun attractions.





Imagine shooting up a 10-metre wall at a 60 degrees angle and then screaming yourself hoarse while plunging down at high speeds – if that's your idea of fun, then you'll love the Water Coaster, the park's top attraction. There's also the Wild River, where you begin at a tower 15 metres high and then race down a 140-metre open water slide, twisting and turning before splashing into the pool below. Next, have splashing time, surfing the waves or swimming at the Wave Cove.

Take a breather and float along the 300-metre long River of Adventure, relaxing as you soak in the atmosphere. After that, hop on the nearby Discovery Island for hours of enjoyment at the Jungle Playground, Bubble Bay, The Sand Pit, The River Bar and Kiddies Cove, a shallow pool specially designed for children with miniature slides and an activity area.

For the energetic and sporty, The Carnivall offers the Family Bungee, where you can get a taste of bungee jumping with exciting aerial twists and flips on this unique trampoline or make a beeline for the Sports Park and Group Garden to enjoy exciting activities, good company and great food.



And there's more. Walk down the Street of Happenings, meet the clowns or win yourself some prizes at the Carnivall Games. After all that excitement, head for the Carnival Delights and unwind at its tropical gardens. Take in the park's rustic Balinese designs as you savour the tasty local and international delights served here. Not-to-be-missed is the famous Carnival Ice Cream, an assortment of flavours served in freshly made waffles. Delicious!

Stop by and gather for a photo or two at the Fountain of Fun before you call it a day. To help you plan for your next visit, swing by the Gallery of Happenings to catch up on the latest promotions plus upcoming events.









GETTING THERE:

The Carnivall is accessible by air through regular direct flights from the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA), landing at either the Penang Airport or Sultan Abdul Halim Airport. From here, it only takes a 40 minutes' drive to get to The Carnivall, which is approximately 50km away. Alternatively, you can take the train and stop at the Sungai Petani Railway Station, which is 3km from the resort. It takes 4 1/2 hours to drive from Kuala Lumpur to Sungai Petani via the North-South Highway (take Exit 170 for Sungai Petani – Utara).

Opening hours: Weekdays 10am - 6pm. Weekends, Malaysian School & Public Holidays
11am - 7pm. Closed on Wednesdays (except on Malaysian School & Public Holidays)

Guided tours: 10am, Noon, 3pm & 5pm. Cultural dances: 11am, 2pm & 4pm.

Admission: Water & Land of Excitement – RM 25 (Adult), RM 19 (Child, aged 12 years and below)

Supporting facilities: Park restaurant, Ice Cream parlour, retail outlets, games stalls, River Bar, camp site, car park, multi-purpose function halls, Surau, First Aid room, changing rooms and shower, restrooms plus lockers.

Hotel accommodation: Available at the Cinta Sayang Golf & Country Resort

Information: Tel: 604-441 4666 / 777 Fax: 604-441 5600

E-mail: cintasayang@cinta-sayang.com.my

Website: www.cinta-sayang.com.my







BERJAYA HILLS

French-style village

Fancy going to a quaint French-style village without having to leave Malaysia? Head for Colmar Tropicale at the Berjaya Hills, a new hill destination in Pahang with a variety of unique theme attractions.



As the car goes up the mountain road to about 2,600 feet, you can get the first glimpse of Colmar Tropicale nestling among the green pine trees. It looks like a castle from a storybook. Actually, Colmar Tropicale is a charming reproduction of a French village dating back to the 16th century in the Alsace region of France. In the cool mountain air, colourful flowers in the garden add to the European touch of the attraction.

Visitors walk across a wooden drawbridge to the entrance of Colmar Tropicale, just like going into a castle in the olden days. Look up and you can see a tower designed after the Riquewihr Tower in Alsace, with a cuckoo clock at the top. The kids just love to see the wooden cuckoo come out as the clock chimes every 15 minutes and on the hour.

Inside Colmar Tropicale is a cobblestone street with colourful Colmar-style buildings on either side housing a hotel and food outlets. Further up the village street, Colmar Square features a fountain, a wishing well, and a viewing tower. You can walk up to the top of the tower and get a scenic view of the surrounding hills. Afterwards, relax on a park bench before enjoying a meal in the hotel coffeehouse or at the sidewalk deli. Later, you can browse around in the shops that offer a variety of products such as gift items, handicraft, pewter, wines and ***batik***, and watch a candle and soap-making demonstration at La Lavande, or make your own candles or soap at the workshop. Visitors can also enjoy various activities, including karaoke, board games, swimming, treasure hunt and telematch. Don't forget to take lots of souvenir photos at the picturesque Colmar Tropicale.

Another attraction is the Rabbit Park, a firm favourite with kids who just love to cuddle the rabbits. Even adults will be charmed by the sight of dozens of white, brown and grey rabbits hopping about in the park. Donkey rides and children's archery are also available here.

Higher up Berjaya Hills at about 3,500 feet above sea level is the authentic wooden Japanese Tea House, the first in a tropical rainforest. It is a pleasure to take a leisurely stroll in the serene landscaped Japanese Garden, where colourful koi swim around in the fish pond set amongst lush mountain plants. For tea lovers, a Japanese Tea Ceremony can be conducted, and kimonos can be rented. The Tatami Spa offers a range of Japanese spa treatments.

Nearby is the Botanical Garden, where the colourful temperate flowers and the exotic tropical plants will surely attract much interest. Night adventure activity, night walk and jungle trekking can be conducted at the Botanical Garden.

Besides visiting these attractions, there are plenty of sports activities to enjoy such as horse-riding at the Stable. The Berjaya Hills Golf & Country Club offers an 18-hole international standard golf course, a driving range, a bowling alley, tennis, badminton, squash, snooker, table tennis, a gym, archery and paintball tag.

Berjaya Hills has something for everyone in the family to enjoy. Hotel accommodation is available at Colmar Tropicale, the Berjaya Hills Golf & Country Club, Meranti Park Suites, and the upscale Japanese-style Sakura and Ume Tatami Suites in the Japanese Garden, which afford fantastic views of the surrounding peaks.







Glossary Kg. (Kampung) - Village

GETTING THERE:

About 60 minutes drive from Kuala Lumpur via the Karak Highway

Open: Daily

Charges: Visit Colmar Tropicale for RM12 nett (per adult) & RM8 nett (per child aged 4-12 years). Charges / rentals apply for activities. Some activities are arranged upon request and are subject to group size. Please confirm details and all latest charges with Colmar Tropicale.

Supporting facilities: Food outlets, accommodation, car park

Information / Hotel reservations: Berjaya Hills Kuala Lumpur Sales Office Tel: 603-2142 9611 Fax: 603-2144 2526 / 2527 or Colmar Tropicale Berjaya Hills

Tel: 609-288 8888 Fax: 603-288 3333

E-mail: berjayahills@hr.berjaya.com.my

Website: www.berjayahills.com







A'FAMOSA RESORT

Animal safari, cowboys & waterpark

Hold tight, as you sit in the caged truck. The Safari Park adventure at A'Famosa is about to begin. This is the only safari park in Malaysia, where you can see wild animals like tigers, lions and sunbears close-up in the open as the truck stops right next to them. But before you get to meet the lions, you have to pass through the rough and bumpy Jungle Area and cross Crocodile River. Yes, there are really crocodiles in the water! The tigers, lions and sunbears roam in their own areas, and are prevented from escaping by electrified fencing.



Also in the Safari Park is the Herbivore Area, where Barbary sheep, deer, camels, zebras and ostriches roam freely in the open while the giraffes munch happily on fresh leaves from the trees. Again, the truck stops close to these animals for you to get a good look.

With more than 100 animal species, the 150-acre Animal World Safari promises great fun and excitement. Besides the Safari Park, there are fascinating and entertaining Multi-animal, Elephant and Bird shows. To add to the adventure, you can enjoy elephant, camel and pony rides. In the Walk-Through Area are Tanzanian flamingos, black and white swans, Australian Bennett wallabies, North American raccoons and the Malaysian black and white tapirs.

There is also a dairy farm with a herd of cows, and in the Farm House are fluffy chicks, kittens, puppies, ducks and chicken. On Monkey Island are brown lemurs, squirrel monkeys, capuchins, white-handed gibbons and red-handed tamarins, and visitors can get to the island on a motor raft.

The Wild Wild West Show, starring cowboys and Apaches on horseback shooting at each other in an old frontier town setting, is like a scene from the movies, and provides hilarious entertainment for the whole family. In the evening, Cowboy Town comes alive. Here are food outlets serving local and western food, a pub, beer garden, live bands, karaoke, disco and a children's park. Showtime in the public square features



cowboys and Apaches in stunt acts and trick horse riding. It's exciting to see the performers standing on the bare back of the galloping horses. After the show, visitors can try their hand at archery.



The Water World is another popular attraction. Set in a 20-acre landscaped area, the waterpark features a Wave Pool, Lazy River tube ride, the very popular Family Raft Ride, High Speed Slides and Wild Waterslides with high-speed bends, loops and twists. Younger children have their own Tots Activity Pool with mini slides, water sprays and Aladdin's Arabian Village.



And that's not all. There is a range of sports and recreational activities including horse riding, kite flying, woodball, cycling, tennis, basketball, indoor games, fishing, jungle trekking and golf in one of the top golf courses in Malaysia. Accommodation is available in the A'Famosa Resort Hotel, bungalows and the Condotel, and for getting around, the internal shuttle service is convenient.



GETTING THERE:

About 60 minutes drive from Kuala Lumpur via the North South Expressway. Exit at Simpang Empat / Alor Gajah toll.

Opening hours : Water World: Mon - Fri (except Tuesday): 11am - 7pm Sat, Sun, Public / School Holidays: 9am - 8pm Animal World Safari: Mon-Sun: 9am - 5pm Cowboy town: Evenings

Admission:

Malaysians	Foreigners
Water World:	Water World:
- RM35 (adult) & RM30 (child) - weekdays	- RM35 (adult) & RM25 (child) - weekdays
- RM40 (adult) & RM35 (child) - weekends & public holidays	- RM40 (adult) & RM30 (child) - weekends & public holidays
Animal World Safari:	Animal World Safari:
- RM45 (adult) & RM35 (child) - weekdays	- RM87 (adult) & RM77 (child) - weekdays
- RM48 (adult) & RM38 (child) - weekends	- RM90 (adult) & RM80 (child) - weekends
Cowboy town:	Cowboy Town:
- Evenings RM45 (adult) & RM40 (child). Activity charges may apply.	- Evenings RM50 (adult) & RM40 (child). Activity charges may apply.

Supporting facilities: Cafes, restaurants, souvenir shop, internal shuttle, car park.
Hotel accommodation: Available
Information: Resort Tel: 606-552 0888 Fax: 606-552 0979 / Kuala Lumpur Tel: 603-2781 8888 Fax: 603-2781 8833 / Melaka Tel: 606-552 0888
E-mail: enquiries@afamosa.com
Website: www.afamosa.com

BUKIT MERAH LAKETOWN RESORT

Discover Orang Utan Island



A must-see at the Bukit Merah Laketown Resort is Orang Utan Island, the only Orang Utan sanctuary in Peninsular Malaysia that is home to 11 Borneo Orang Utans of different ages. These Orang Utans live and breed on the island as part of a rehabilitation and preservation programme in the forest on the island. From the resort jetty, visitors take a relaxing 10-minute boat ride on the calm and scenic 7,000-acre lake to Orang Utan Island. Waiting to greet visitors as the boat docks is Atan, a 7-year-old Orang Utan, with his handler. Photos of Atan and the other orang utans adorn the walls of the waiting area by the island jetty.

A short walk leads to a tunnel cage at the edge of the rainforest. Enter this cage and there you can see the Orang Utans climbing, swinging about and feeding on fresh fruit in their natural habitat. This is an amazing, unforgettable experience!

From Orang Utan Island, visitors continue by boat to the Eco Park, where there are three main enclosures to house birds, primates and reptiles. In the bird enclosure, colourful South American parrots will eat sunflower seeds from your hand, and you can come real close to the free flying birds, including parakeets, yellow canaries and white cockatoos from Australia. Among the primates in the next enclosure are gibbons, macaques and, peeping from among the bushes, numerous gentle squirrel monkeys that love peanuts.In the last enclosure, the iguanas are crawling on the boardwalk looking for the best place to sun themselves. There is also a snake house.





The entertaining Animal Show, staged four times daily, is another must-see and it features performances by parrots, raptors and hornbills. Not to be missed is The Skycycle, an elevated monorail through the tree canopy. The only way to move the bright yellow car is to turn the pedals with your hands! Here, you are at the same level as the treetops and looking down, you can see chickens, goats and deer on the ground. It is a fun way to explore the rainforest.

To get to the waterpark, the best way is the Chairlift ride that transports you high over the water park for some breathtaking views of the resort. This is the only such ride in Malaysia, and you can see the different water rides waiting for you to enjoy. There are 10 water attractions in Laketown Waterpark, and the newest ride is the V-shaped `Boomerang', the only one in Malaysia and Southeast Asia, where riders slide down from a height of 35 feet. The Giant Wet Bubble offers tremendous fun, as do the Tube and Body Slides, Lazy River and the Giant Wave Pool. Small children have their own fun pool.

The fun continues in the Games & Shopping Arcade, where there are games with prizes to be won, video game challenges and souvenirs to buy. You can also experience guided jungle trekking by day or by night, go fishing and enjoy water sports and lake cruises.





Glossary Bukit - Hill

GETTING THERE:
About 3 hours drive from Kuala Lumpur on the North South Expressway, exit at Bukit Merah toll
Opening hours: Waterpark: Mon, Wed, Thur: Noon - 7pm, Fri, Sat, Sun, Public / School Holidays: 10am - 7pm. Closed on Tuesdays except for Public / School Holidays
Eco Park: Mon - Thurs: 10am - 6pm, Fri, Sat, Sun, Public / School Holidays: 10am - 6pm
Orang Utan Island: Daily 9am - 5pm
Skycycle closed on Tuesdays, Chairlift open daily
Admission: Separate charges apply for Waterpark, Eco Park, Orang Utan Island, Skycycle and Chairlift. Waterpark Combo package (Waterpark, Eco Park, Orang Utan Island, Skycycle or Chairlift) - RM55 (adult) & RM45 (child) (Valid for 3 days with one entry per park). Eco combo package (Eco Park, Orang Utan Island, Skycycle or Chairlift) - RM30 (adult) & RM24 (child). Orang Utan Island RM20 (adult) & RM17 (child). Waterpark RM25 (adult) & RM21 (child).
Supporting facilities: Restaurants, cafes, souvenir shop,
Hotel accommodation: Available
Information: Kuala Lumpur Tel: 603-7722 5687 Fax: 603-7726 4431
Resort Tel: 605-890 8888 Fax: 605-890 8000 / Penang Tel: 604-227 9003

DESA WATER PARK

Chill out

For Kuala Lumpur residents and visitors, there's a great water place to chill out. Desa Water Park in Taman Danau Desa, conveniently located near the Kuala Lumpur-Seremban Highway, and a short drive from the heart of Kuala Lumpur, promises a cool, fun experience for everyone in the family. The popular waterpark is set in tropical surroundings beside a 50-acre lake, and there are numerous water-based fun rides to try out.



For the bold and the brave, there's the heart-thumping challenge of the Thunderbolt to conquer. This is one of the longest uphill water coasters in Asia. Ride the Thunderbolt, and have a terrific experience sliding up and down a winding tube that is elevated. From the Thunderbolt, keep the charge up at the Supertube, where you can glide through the wacky twists and turns of the open and closed tube at racing speed that will send you screaming.



Go for more screaming fun and excitement at the Splash-Out activity pool, where you need to hang on to a rope and jump from one floatable to another. Let's see who falls into the water first! Next, go for the Shock Wave, where you can sit on the beach and wait for the waves to rush up and splash over you. Watch out, the waves can go as high as 1.4 metres! Next, create some action on the Action River or just glide along to re-charge your batteries.

Come to the Ultimate Water Factory and turn the wheels and push buttons. Watch out! Water shoots out in all directions from showers and jets. Time to get all bubbly in the Bubble Pool, where the water comes out in bubbles, or head for some swimming at the deeper Ripple Bay.

For families that want to play together, the Surf Shack is simply ideal. Here are multi-level platforms that are integrated with pipes, valves, pulleys, buckets and waterslides. Younger children will enjoy the water rides designed specially for them, including Baby Wave, Water Factory and Pink Slide, and being entertained by a clown at Clown-A-Round. You can be sure of a thrilling time at the Desa Water Park.





GETTING THERE:
Access Desa Water Park from the Federal Highway via Taman Desa, or from the Kuala Lumpur - Seremban Highway via the Taman Desa interchange. The park is about 15 minutes drive on clear roads from the city centre.
Opening hours: Weekdays Noon - 6pm / Weekends, public & school holidays 10am - 6pm. Closed on Wednesdays except for public & school holidays.
Admission: RM20 (adult 12 years and above) & RM14 (child 3 - 12 years). Free for children below 3 years. Group discounts available for 25 persons and above.
Supporting facilities: Fast food outlet, gift shop, car park.
Hotel accommodation: Not available
Information / Bookings: Tel: 603-7118 8338 Fax: 603-7118 8383
E-mail: mfra@tm.net.my

WET WORLD SHAH ALAM

Beat the heat



When the sun is up and the swimming pool is not enough fun, it's a great idea to make tracks for the Wet World Shah Alam. Facing the scenic Shah Alam Lake, the Wet World Shah Alam is conveniently located in the Klang Valley, which helps to make it one of the most popular recreational spots in Selangor.

The bright colours of the waterpark – red, blue, pink and yellow – scream fun and excitement. The most talked-about ride is the exhilarating Monsoon Buster, one of the longest uphill water coaster rides in Asia! You'll find yourself propelled forward on your floatable for some 200 metres by water jets. Pure joy! Try it once, and you will be back for more. Young children accompanied by an adult can also ride the Monsoon Buster.

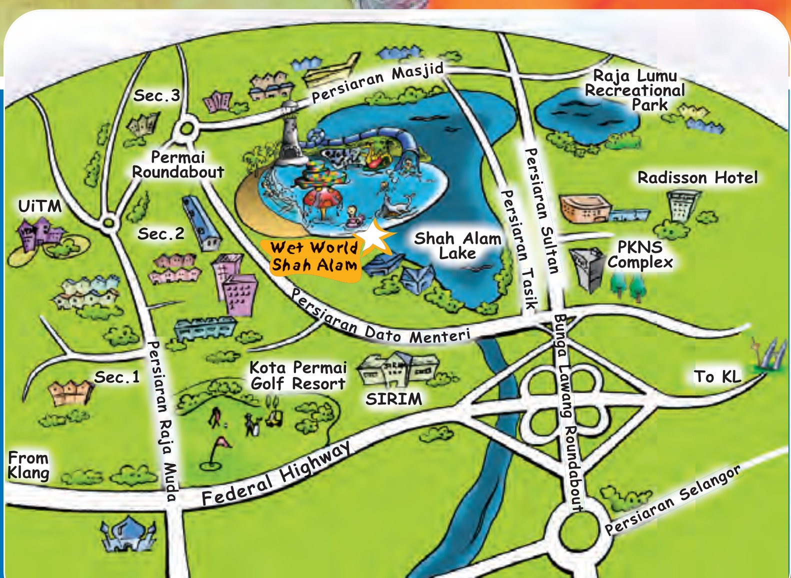


For team games, more than 10 people can slide down the open Giant Slide. It's that wide! More speedy challenges await at the Tunnel Water Coaster, a closed ride, and the Big Splash, a half closed and half open slide. Waiting for you at Neptune's Challenge are 10 floatables and you have to walk across the water on these floats. Lose your balance and you'll get a dunking, but that's the fun of a water game. Getting very wet!

Kiddies have their own play area, where the attractions include the Seashell Kiddy Slide and the red and yellow Submarine Slide. Some of them will be thrilled just splashing about in the pool, or paddling in the Lazy River. You can play until closing time, and really get your money's worth at the waterpark.







Glossary Persiaran - Drive • UiTM - Universiti Teknologi MARA

GETTING THERE:

About 45 minutes drive from Kuala Lumpur on the Federal Highway. Exit at Bunga Lawang Roundabout, Shah Alam, and drive towards Persiaran Dato Menteri, Section 2. The waterpark is near the Sirim Building and opposite the Shah Alam Lake.

Opening hours: Weekdays, weekends, public & school holidays 10am - 6.30pm. Closed on Wednesdays except for public & school holidays.

Admission: Weekdays, weekends RM10 (adult) & RM8 (child). Child rate applies for children aged 3-12 years.

Supporting facilities: Fast food outlet, gift shop, car park

Hotel accommodation: Not available

Information: Tel: 603-5510 2588 Fax: 603-5510 7619

Website: www.onlyworldgroup.com

WET WORLD PEDAS HOT SPRINGS

Splish, splash in spring water

The little town of Pedas in Negeri Sembilan has long been famous for its hot springs. For more than 60 years, people have been going there to enjoy the hot spring water, which contains minerals, and is believed to have healing and therapeutic qualities. Now, there is even more reason to visit Pedas as there is also the Wet World Pedas Hot Springs Waterpark for the whole family to enjoy.



Among the attractions at the Wet World Pedas Hot Springs Waterpark are the two open-air common pools filled with hot water from the spring. The spring water in the pools is at a temperature of 35 to 46 degrees Centigrade, and once you get used to the hot water, you'll find it very relaxing. For those who prefer privacy, private bathtubs are available. There is also a reflexology footbath, where you walk on a reflexology pebble trail in the water.

The cooled spring water is circulated throughout the waterpark, which is set in scenic hilly surroundings and offers hours of fun for families. If you don't know which water ride to try first, why not begin with the Lazy River that winds around the theme park? Just lie back in your colourful floatable, relax as you float around the park, and figure out which ride attracts you. The small kids obviously love to be on the Lazy River, imagining themselves in a boat, as their parents push them along.

Kembar, the twin slides, offers a thrilling ride down an open slide before splashing into the pool. The wave pool is another fun place, where you can feel the force of the churning waves. Or simply play around in the wading pool with your friends, or conduct your own water team games.

You can also camp at the camping site next to the waterpark. For additional fun, the waterpark can also arrange dry and wet obstacle races for groups. Prior arrangement is required for camping and additional activities (call Marketing Department at Tel: 603-5513 2020 or Fax: 603-5512 2670).





GETTING THERE:

About 1 hour drive on the North South Expressway from Kuala Lumpur. Exit at the Senawang or Pedas-Linggi interchange. The waterpark is about 13km from Seremban, on the old trunk road to Tampin.

Opening hours: Weekdays 1pm - 7pm / Weekends, public & school holidays 10am - 7pm. Closed on Tuesdays except for public & school holidays.

Admission: Weekdays RM10 (adult) & RM8 (child) / Weekends RM12 (adult) & RM10 (child). Child rate applies for children aged 3 -12 years. Hot Spring Spa Pool RM3 / Waterpark & Spa Pool RM10

Supporting facilities: Fast food outlet, gift shop, car park

Hotel accommodation: Not available

Information: Tel: 606-685 8027 Fax: 606- 685 8030

Website: www.wetworld.com.my

WET WORLD BATU PAHAT
Johor's water attraction

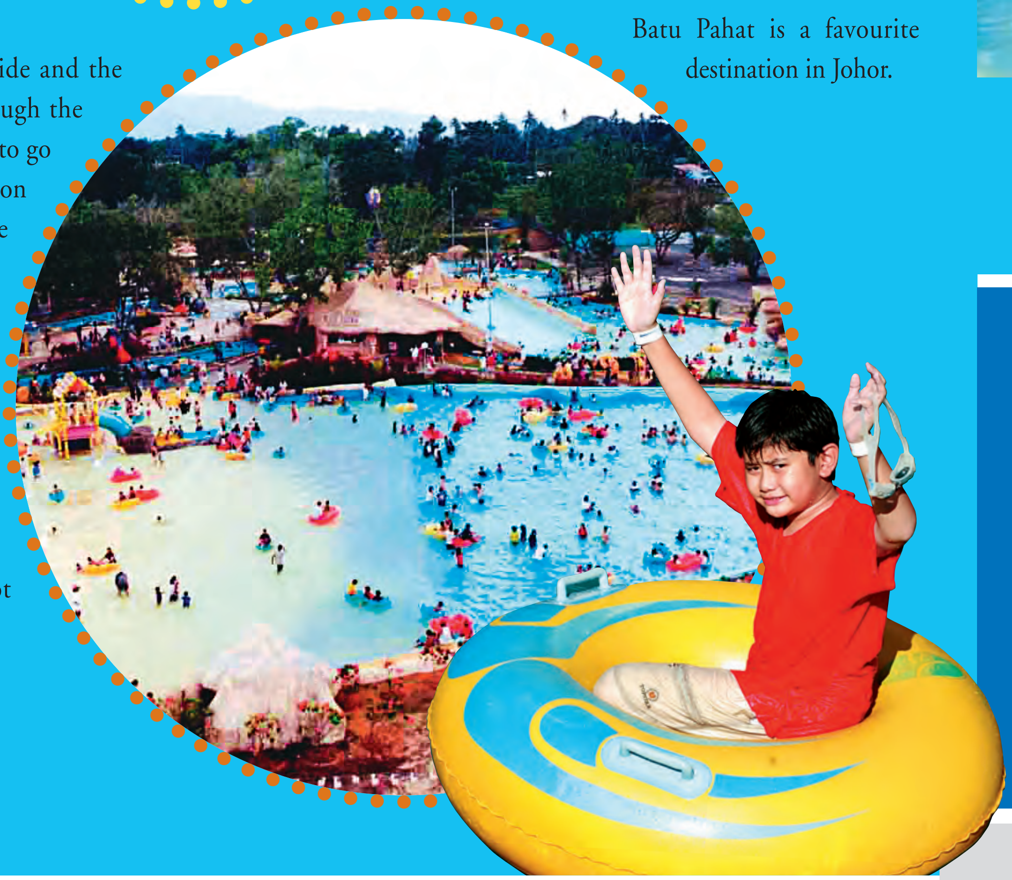
It's a colourful world at the only waterpark in Johor, the Wet World Batu Pahat. Built around the town's famous Merdeka Lake, the waterpark spreads over a 44-acre landscaped park.



Shrieks and laughter from children and adults greet you as you enter the park. Everyone is having enormous fun playing in the water. The Wave Pool is definitely one of the biggest attractions. Both young and old seem to love hanging out on the Wave Pool beach, waiting for the waves to rush up and splash over them. It's even more fun to jump into a yellow or red floatable and ride the waves, as many people are doing.

For more challenges, do try the Covered Slide and the Giant Slide, and allow yourself to rush through the twists and turns on a jet of water. You'll want to go on these water rides again and again. The Action River that loops around the park is just the place for team racing, or for families to have some splashing fun. Small children can also enjoy themselves at the Wet World Batu Pahat as there are special water areas designed for their needs. Accompanied by adults, small children can splash about safely in the kids' pool and play on the kiddy slides. Once they've discovered the fun of playing in the water, they will not want to get out.

After all the excitement of the water rides, it's time to take it easy and relax in the swirling waters of the Jacuzzi. For those with lots of leg energy, they may want to try the paddleboats and paddle around in the lake. If you like fishing, why not join the many people at the lake and try your luck at landing a fish? There is also an area where ducks, swans and ostriches are kept, which will surely interest the children. With activities for everyone to enjoy, whatever the age group, it's no wonder the Wet World Batu Pahat is a favourite destination in Johor.







GETTING THERE:

About 3.5 hours drive on the North South Expressway from Kuala Lumpur. Exit at the Yong Peng or Ayer Hitam interchanges, and drive to Jalan Bukit Pasir in Batu Pahat.

Opening hours: Weekdays 1pm - 7pm / Weekends, public & school holidays 10am - 7pm. Closed on Tuesdays except for public & school holidays.

Admission: Weekdays RM12 (adult) & RM10 (child).
Weekends RM15 (adult) & RM10 (child).
Child rate applies for children aged 3 -12 years.

Supporting facilities: Fast food outlet, gift shop, car park

Hotel accommodation: Not available

Information: Tel: 607-434 6060 Fax: 607-433 6161

Website: www.worldgroup.com

MONSOPIAD CULTURAL VILLAGE

Exotic Kadazan culture

Some 300 years ago, in a village in Penampang, Sabah, there lived a great Kadazan warrior named Monsopiad. So great was his power that no enemy could defeat him. During his lifetime, in order to protect his village, Monsopiad took the heads of 42 enemies.





Today, the 6th and 7th generation descendants of Monsopiad still live on their ancestral land by the scenic Moyog River. And in memory of the great Monsopiad, they have built the Monsopiad Cultural Village, a fascinating authentic showcase of the rich and ancient culture of the Kadazans that goes back a long time in history.

The Kadazans are part of the Kadazandusun community, the biggest ethnic group in Sabah. The Monsopiad Cultural Village has been built with traditional materials used by the Kadazandusun people for centuries, such as jungle logs, palm leaves and bamboo. After a warm greeting by your Kadazan host at the entrance to Monsopiad Cultural Village and a welcome drink of *tapai* (rice-wine), you can see the various daily activities in a Kadazan village. Here, everyone wears the traditional black Kadazan attire.

A big attraction is the replica of Monsopiad's house, sitting on the original site, and raised off the ground. You climb up a log with steps cut into it to reach the bamboo landing before entering the spacious house.



The Kadazans cultivate rice, and it is impressive to see the rhythmic pounding of rice in a wooden mortar by two young girls, as the long, carved wooden stick is heavy! You can have a go at pounding rice, if you like. The rice is then stored in a big *tangkob* or rice bin. Kadazan villagers also brew rice wine and make sago from the sago palm. The men make bamboo fish traps, machetes, gongs and blowpipes. The women weave cloth and mats, do embroidery and beadwork, and make *sirung* (the conical hat) and *tadang* (the carrier basket). The Kadazans are also famous for their dances, and you can join in the dancing during the performance.

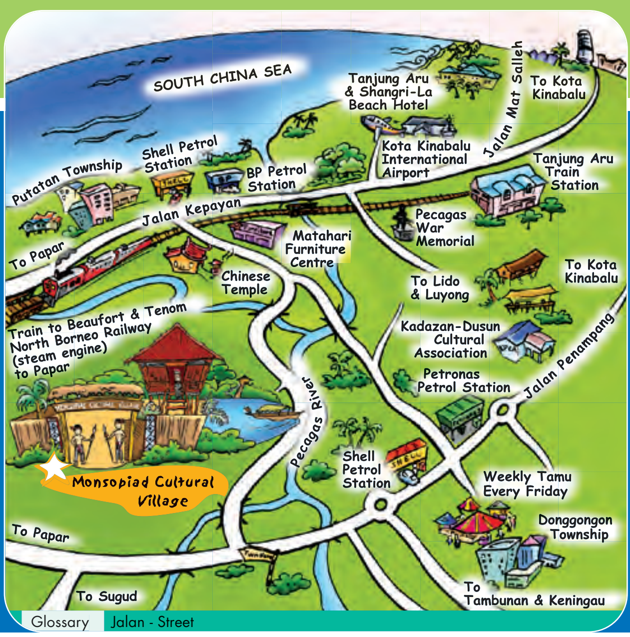


In the House of Skulls can be seen the skulls of the 42 enemies slain by Monsopiad. Also displayed are items used by the Bobohizans, the high priestesses, who occupy an important place in the Kadazan community. The Bobohizans continue to look after the skulls according to old customs and traditions.



So vivid are the stories told by the Kadazan guide that one can feel the presence of Monsopiad. Finally, as a fitting tribute to a great Kadazan warrior, you can follow the guide and trek up the hill to view the grave of the mighty Monsopiad.

Other attractions are the Kadazan wedding ceremony staged every Saturday in December, and the 40-minute Moyog River cruise in a ***lipa lipa*** boat to Sodomon Jetty, during which you can see rice fields, birds and the mystical Mount Kinabalu in the distance.



GETTING THERE:

Malaysia Airlines and AirAsia fly to Kota Kinabalu daily. Monsopiad is about 20 minutes from Kota Kinabalu city. Monsopiad Shuttle pick-up return trip inclusive of admission ticket RM46 per person. Or take a taxi there, or public bus to Penampang (bus stop at the back of Centrepoint Shopping Centre), get down at Dongonggon, and continue by minibus to Monsopiad.

Opening hours: Mon - Sun 9am - 6pm.

Guided tours: Anytime. Cultural dances: 9.30am,11am, 2pm & 4pm.

Admission: Malaysians - RM45 (adult) & RM16 (child), RM20 (student & senior citizen 55 years old & above)

Foreigners - RM65 (adult) & RM25 (child) RM40 (student & senior citizen 55 years old & above)

Supporting facilities: Souvenir shop, beverages, car park

Hotel accommodation: Not available

Information: Tel: 6088-761 336 Fax: 6088-761 680

Email: info@monsopiad.com

Website: www.monsopiad.com



SARAWAK CULTURAL VILLAGE

Step into a longhouse

Shoot blowpipe darts like a true Penan, walk across the narrow bamboo bridge, gape at real skulls in the Iban House, climb up the Melanau Tall House… all these fun and adventurous activities, and more, await you at the fascinating Sarawak Cultural Village near Kuching.







Exotic Sarawak, land of many rivers, is famous for her many ethnic groups such as Iban, Bidayuh, Orang Ulu, Melanau, Penan, Malay and Chinese, who traditionally live in different parts of this huge state. To visit their traditional settlements would take many days. Fortunately, at the Sarawak Cultural Village situated at the foot of the legendary Mount Santubong, the interesting cultures of all these people can be experienced in one place.

The first stop is the Bidayuh Longhouse, where in the Barok, the circular head-house of the Bidayuhs,



traditional gongs, war drums and bamboo musical instruments are displayed. In one of the longhouse dwellings, sitting by the window is master carver Pak Sijan, and he is expertly carving an intricate design on a length of bamboo – free hand! He has been carving since he was a young boy.

Outside, two Bidayuh ladies in traditional black outfits are busy pounding and winnowing rice, while another demonstrates the art of weaving fine bamboo strips into beautiful baskets. You can try your hand at these activities.

For some adventure, don't forget to walk across the narrow bamboo bridge, just wide enough for one person. Feel the bridge bend and sway under your weight, and imagine rushing water below, for these fragile bamboo bridges are often found in Sarawak's jungles, high above foaming rivers.

Next door is the Iban Longhouse, built above ground, and reached by a notched log that serves as a staircase. Once you get the hang of it, you can even run up and down the log like a true Iban child. There are several individual family rooms fronting the common walkway in an Iban Longhouse. Walk into a unit, look up and see enemy skulls in a net hanging from the rafters, as the Ibans were fierce head-hunters in the olden days. An Iban lady is weaving the traditional ***pua*** on a back-strap loom, another is making the intricate beaded collar, while a third is making the very tasty ***kuih jala.*** Visitors are often invited to sit down on the mat and have a chat with the longhouse elder.

The Penan Hut is very small and simple, as the Penans are nomadic people who live in the dense virgin jungles of Central Borneo. Penans use the blowpipe for hunting, and the Penan warrior is happy to show you how to make a blowpipe, all by hand, and shoot with it. The Penans are also very skilful at making decorations from soft wood.



The Kayan, the Kenyah, the Kelabit, the Lun Bawang and the other minor tribes of Sarawak are known as the Orang Ulu. They are gentle, graceful people, as reflected in their songs, music and dances. On the verandah of the imposing Orang Ulu Longhouse, perched on the hillside with a dominating "Tree of Life" wall mural in black, white, green and red, the Orang Ulu musician plays a beautiful melody on the ***sape***, a stringed musical instrument. Orang Ulu ladies are famous for their intricate beadwork, and you can see a beadwork demonstration in the longhouse. The Melanau people traditionally lived near the sea where there were pirates. As a means of protecting themselves, the Melanaus built massive houses 40 feet above the ground! At the Melanau Tall House in the Sarawak Cultural Village, you need to climb up the long ladder to enter the wooden house. Once inside, you can pretend to fight an imaginary battle with pirates down below.

Outside the house is a Melanau carved totem pole, traditionally used to bury the village headmen. In a small house, a Melanau lady is demonstrating the art of making sago pearls and crispy sago biscuits, from grating the sago palm trunk to roasting the finished product. Now you know how the sago pearls used in the famous Malaysian dessert, ***gula melaka*** are made. You can try grating the sago palm trunk for a hands-on experience.



From the humblest to the highest, the traditional Malay house is a wooden house built on stilts. Observe the windows cut down to floor level for the breeze to blow in for the comfort of people seated in the front room that is designated for the men, official occasions and for entertaining guests. You can see the artistic skill in the decoration of the stairs and window railings, fascia boards under the eaves as well as the ventilation grills above or beside doorways.

Do join in the many traditional Malay games on demonstration here, such as ***gasing*** or top spinning and ***congkak*** – a traditional Malay board-like game.





The first Chinese settlers in Sarawak came in the early 1900s, and many were involved in vegetable farming. The Chinese farmhouse was a simple wooden house built on the ground with trodden earth for a floor, whitewashed plank walls and a thatched (attap) roof. The interior of the house, sparsely furnished, consisted of the open kitchen, dining and living sections and the storage area for valuables such as bicycles or agricultural machinery, and sectioned off bedrooms.



A focal point in the living area was the household shrine, while the doorpost was often pasted with pieces of red paper with auspicious sayings to bring luck to or divine protection for the family. Outside the house is a pepper garden, which should not be missed – as Sarawak is famous for its pepper crop. As the pepper bush grows taller, workers need to climb up a ladder to trim the bush or pick the pepper berries.

After seeing all the different houses, it's time to enjoy a performance of the colourful dances of the Ibans, Bidayuh, Orang Ulu, Melanau, Malay and Chinese in the air-conditoned theatre. A most spectacular dance is the Iban Ngajat Lesong, where the Iban warrior demonstrates the extraordinary strength of his teeth by lifting a 20-kilogram mortar. Dancing with the mortar clamped in this mouth is a feat of endurance.

To complete the Sarawak cultural experience, do savour some Sarawakian food at the restaurant, and pick up some souvenirs at the handicraft shop.





GETTING THERE:
Malaysia Airlines and AirAsia fly to Kuching daily. Sarawak Cultural Village is located at Pantai Damai, Santubong, about 40 minutes drive from Kuching. A shuttle van service (RM10 per person) departs from the Holiday Inn Kuching, Crowne Plaza Riverside and Merdeka Palace Hotel three times a day. The last ticket is sold at 4:30pm at the Entrance of Sarawak Cultural Village.
Opening hours: Daily 9am - 5:15pm. Cultural Shows per day from 11:30am - 12:15pm and 4:00pm - 5:15pm
Admission (inclusive of cultural show): RM60 (adult) & RM30 (child 6 - 12 yrs). Free for children less than 6 years.
Supporting facilities: Restaurant, souvenir shop, car park
Hotel accommodation: Available
Information: Tel:6082-846 411 Fax: 6082-846 988
E-mail: enquiry@scv.com.my
Website: www.scv.com.my


LOST WORLD
PETTING ZOO





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November 2010

(TRAFFICKING IN ILLEGAL DRUGS CARRIES THE DEATH PENALTY)

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